REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-18, 21-29 and 32-38 remain in the application. Claims 1, 7-10, 15, 21-24, 29 and 32-36 have been amended and claims 5, 6, 19, 20, 30, 31 and 39 have been cancelled in order to more clearly define applicant's invention. It should be noted that the limitations of claims 6, 20 and 31 have been incorporated into their independent claims 1, 15 and 29. Accordingly, claims 5, 6, 19, 20 and 30 and 31 have been cancelled as duplicative. No new matter has been introduce by the amendments.

Referring to the Official action of September 7, 2004, the Examiner has objected to the drawings for failing to include reference numeral 100 in Fig. 2, and 300 and 302 in Fig. 5. Original claims 1-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bonneau et al. The objection and rejection are traversed and reconsideration is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

The substituted attached pages 2/7 and 5/7 for the current drawings sheets is believed to overcome the Examiner's objections.

With regard to the rejection of the original claims 1-39 over the Bonneau et al. patent, it is submitted that all of the claims as now presented clearly define over the reference. The claims recite a method of and system for providing a spatially filtered version of an image by selectively modifying image pixel amplitudes as a predetermined function of spatial frequency components of the image pixels. The method and system first divide an overall frequency range of the image into a plurality of constituent frequency ranges. A spatial filter is then provided for each of the constituent frequency ranges for receiving the image pixels. The filtered output represents the spatial frequency components of the pixels that are within that constituent frequency range. The image pixel amplitude values for each of the filtered outputs is scaled by a scaling factor specific to the associated spatial filter, so as to produce a scaled output. The scaled outputs are combined so as to produce a composite output representative of the spatially filtered version of the image. The scaling factors are such that they vary as a function of time so as to sweep a pass-band having a predetermined bandwidth across the overall frequency range, such that image components characterized by frequencies within the pass-band are enhanced or passed without substantial attenuation. It is submitted that the cited Bonneau et al patent neither discloses nor makes obvious this claimed combination.

The Bonneau et al patent describes a technique for a multi-resolution transform of digital image information. First the digital image data is encoded and compressed by a technique which

combines the advantages of both wavelet and fatal encoding. A decoding technique which is described in part with reference to Fig. 8. As stated in columns 15, lines 49-column 17, line 21:

> The encoded data 801 for the low frequency image information of the highest scale with range blocks stored previously is reconstructed by iteration using conventional fractal technique to reconstruct the point images...Next the high frequency encoded information 805 for scale two is decoded using conventional fractal techniques of self iterations. The result is high frequency scale two mage 807.... The two images in boxes 803 and 805 are separately applied to an inverse filter which change the frequency scale of each mage to the next lowest scale...Each image in the low frequency and high frequency images is then added together to form the next low frequency box 809 of scale one, the next lowest scale...The image stored in box 809 now contains the edge information of decoded high frequency step two image 807 and the texture information of low frequency step two image 803. If the image has sufficiently been reproduced after the first frequency scale has been processed, the technique is done. If the image needs further refinement, scale one will be processed in the same manner as scale two.

The patentee further states:

> ...in the example shown in Fig. 8, the image is reconstructed after scale one and its encoded high frequency scale box scale and image 841 are processed. Box 813 is the decoded image of the high frequency portions of the first scale and is added to low frequency portions of the first scale and is added to low frequency box 809 to form box 815 which is a reproduction of the original image.

It is submitted that contrary to the Examiner's statement the reference does not show or suggest scaling factors that can "vary as a function of time so as to sweep a passband having a predetermined bandwidth across the overall frequency range, such that image components characterized by frequencies within the passband are enhanced or passed without substantial attentution," a limitation now present in all of the independent claims, claims 1, 15 and 29.

Accordingly, all of the remaining claims, claims 1-4 1-4, 7-18, 21-29 and 32-38 are believe to be allowable. An early and favorable thereon is therefore earnestly solicited.

No further fees are believed due; however please charge any fees which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1133.

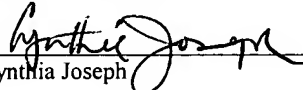Respectfully submitted,

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Amendments to the Drawings

Please substitute the attached pages 2/7 and 5/7 for the current drawings sheets pending in the application.